

**Civic Education, Annotated Webliography**  
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The web sites in the list that follows were part of a Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) teacher training workshop for SAALT 2002. These resources were chosen for content and for their ability to be used offline. This list is not a comprehensive overview of everything on the Web in this topic area.

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Links to the following web sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views contained therein by Leslie Opp-Beckman or the University of Oregon.

**Sponsored by:** Regional English Programs Office, Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Pretoria, South Africa

<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/index.htm>

<http://usembassy.state.gov/southafrica/wwwhell.html>

**1. About Government**

<http://www.aboutgovernment.org/>

You can explore the diversity of Web-based information about the U.S. federal government through the About Government portal site.

**2. The American Promise**

<http://www.americanpromise.com/>

The American Promise is a web site devoted to helping K-12 teachers bring democracy to life in their classrooms. This site is a supplement to the videos and teaching guide produced for the original PBS series, but can also be used independently of it.

**3. America Reads**

<http://www.ed.gov/>

A small portion of the U.S. Department of Education web site with the America Reads materials. America Reads is a four-year grassroots national campaign challenging every American to help all children learn to read.

**4. CaseWeb, Harvard University**

<http://www.ksgcase.harvard.edu/>

A repository of case studies designed for teaching about how U.S. government works, how public policy is made and how non-profit organizations operate. Also featured are guides on how to teach and learn by the case method.

**5. Center for Civic Education**

<http://www.civiced.org/>

Curricular materials, publications, articles, speeches and more.

**6. The Civic Mind, Gateway to Civic Participation**

<http://www.civicmind.com/>

Enlighten and inform your civic-minded audience about how to make civic participation personally rewarding, and, how to motivate and mobilize your members. Monthly updates

about innovations and issues in civics education and civic participation.

7. **Civics and Citizenship Center, Education World**

<http://www.educationworld.com/>

Lesson plans and curriculum for grade levels 1 through 12.

8. **CIVNET, from Civitas International**

<http://www.civnet.org/>

CIVNET is an online resource and service for civic education practitioners (teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum designers), as well as scholars, policymakers, civic-minded journalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) promoting civic education all over the world.

9. **Cyber School Bus, United Nations, Part I**

<http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/>

Of particular note is the section for the Model United Nations simulation.

**Cyber School Bus, United Nations, Part II**

<http://www0.un.org/>

Civics-related educational topics of all kinds.

10. **Discovering Democracy, Civics and Citizenship Education**

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

Teaching units, a newsletter and case studies regarding Civic Education in Australia's public schools.

11. **Edsitement**

<http://edsitement.neh.fed.us/>

Lesson plans on civics and many other topics for students aged kindergarten through high school.

12. **EduPlace**

<http://www.eduplace.com/>

Resources for elementary-school teachers, students, and parents. Includes Reading/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies / Civics.

13. **ERIC Clearinghouse for Social Studies Standards and Curriculum**

<http://www.indiana.edu/~ssdc/stand.htm>

This guide contains links to national and state social studies, art, and music standards and curriculum frameworks information on the Internet. Note that the links are all to web sites on other sites; it is for reference only. Some examples:

**California Online Resources for Education (SCORE)**

<http://score.rims.k12.ca.us>

Curriculum, lesson plans and standards for all grade levels and subjects in California, including Social Studies / Civics.

**Colorado Department of Education, Model Standards, Civics (1998)**

<http://www.cde.co.us/download/pdf.civics.pdf>

Curriculum overview for Civics from Colorado's public school system, for levels pre-

kindergarten through high school (grade 12).

### **Michigan's Curriculum Framework**

<http://www.civics-online.org/>

Michigan's curriculum framework for grade levels 1 through 12 along with case studies and classroom activities for Civic Education.

### **Nebraska Public Schools, UniCAM Focus**

<http://www.unicam.state.ne.us/>

Recently adopted Nebraska social studies standards require that education about the United States and Nebraska governments be a part of secondary educational curriculums. Teachers must now learn how to incorporate these standards into their own classrooms. UniCAM Focus, a supplementary, online civics curriculum, can help teachers meet these new educational goals section.

### **Oregon Standards**

<http://open.k12.or.us/>

Curriculum overview for all subject areas, including Social Studies / Civics, from Oregon's public school system, for grade levels 1 through 12.

### **West Virginia Instructional Goals and Objectives**

<http://wvde.state.wv.us/>

Curriculum and standards for all grade levels and subjects in West Virginia, including Social Studies / Civics.

### **Vermont Department of Education, Vital Results Standards (2000)**

<http://www.state.vt.us/educ/stand/framework.htm>

Curriculum overview for all subject areas, including Civics, from Vermont's public school system, for levels pre-kindergarten through high school (grade 12).

#### **14. FirstGov for Kids**

<http://www.kids.gov/>

This is the U.S. government interagency Kids' Portal. This site was developed and is maintained by the Federal Consumer Information Center. It provides links to Federal kids' sites along with some of the best kids' sites from other organizations all grouped by subject.

#### **15. Fostering Youth's Civic Engagement and Participation in Free and Democratic Societies**

<http://www.stanford.edu/group/adolescent.ctr/Conference/confindex.html>

Proceedings from June 2000, when Brown University hosted an international group of nearly thirty researchers and specialists for a conference entitled, "Fostering Youth's Civic Engagement and Participation in Free and Democratic Societies." This gathering was a subsequent meeting to complement and augment the activities of "Creating Citizenship: Youth Development for Free and Democratic Society," a conference hosted by the Stanford Center on Adolescence the previous year. This year's conference sought to evaluate current "best practices" for promoting youth's civic knowledge, engagement, and participation.

**16. The Great American Web Site**

<http://www.uncle-sam.com/>

A citizens' guide to U.S. government resources on the web. This is a non-governmental research firm dedicated to providing access to Uncle Sam's voluminous sources of information. From the home page, you can access every branch of government. It provides brief reviews of sites and feature the newest additions (see Weekly Highlights) and the candidates for The Best sites throughout Uncle Sam's web.

**17. Institute for the Study of Civic Values (ISCV)**

<http://www.iscv.org/>

A community organization in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (U.S.) that promotes civic education in high schools and neighborhoods.

**18. The Policy Action Network**

<http://movingideas.org>

A "watchdog" agency that provides news and reports on U.S. government legislation and activities. (See, in particular, the sections on Activism and Articles.

**19. Rock the Vote**

<http://www.rockthevote.org/>

An activism-oriented web site to get teens involved in the "Demand Democracy Campaign." (Note: may contain pop-up ads.)

**20. Social Studies Department at Leonardtown High School**

<http://www.smcps.k12.md.us/virths/depts/ss/>

Civics curriculum for a Maryland high school.

**21. United Nations Discussion Papers Series**

<http://magnet.undp.org>

A series of reports related to government and sustainable development from the United Nations.

**22. United States National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)**

<http://www.archives.gov/>

Teaching ideas for civic education. See, in particular, the "Digital Classroom" section.

**23. Virtual Congress**

<http://ibert.org/VC/index.html>

Laws created by the U.S. Congress directly affect everyone in the United States. The Virtual Congress project gives students the opportunity to personally experience how and why these laws are made. They explore ways to understand and modify laws, using the U.S. Federal Budget as the tool.

**24. Voter Turnout from 1945 to Date, A Global Report on Political Participation**

<http://www.idea.int/>

The International IDEA Voter Turnout Website contains the most comprehensive global collection of political participation statistics available. Regularly updated voter turnout figures for national presidential and parliamentary elections since 1945 are presented country by country.